

REMARKS

Claims 15-21 are pending. Minor amendments have been made to Claim 17. No new matter has been added. A restriction has been required to one of two groups of inventions, characterized as Groups I and II. The Groups, claims, and associated subject matter, as set forth in the Office Action, are as follows.

Group I: claims 15-18, drawn to triterpene saponins and their composition prepared by a process as in claim 15, classified in class 536, subclasses 4.1, 18.1, and 5.

Group II: claims 19-21, drawn to methods of alleviating clinical manifestations of and treating disorders by using the compounds of formula as in claim 19, classified in classes 424, subclass 195.1, 180; 514/198.

Applicants hereby elect for prosecution the claims of Group I. To the extent the restriction requirement requires Applicants to elect a specific species, Applicants elect **Compound 3**, the general structure of which is indicated on page 4 of the application at line 7, with groups R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 being specifically defined at lines 18-20. Claims 15-18 encompass the elected species, Compound 3. It is Applicants' understanding that the above election is being made to aid the Examiner in conducting a search and examination of the claimed subject matter, and is not to be construed as limiting the scope of Applicants' claims. It is Applicants' understanding also that, if the elected subject matter is found to be allowable over the prior art, the search and examination will be expanded to cover other species, until it includes the full scope of the generic claims of the invention.

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PATENT

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable Action is requested respectfully.

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